

STAR WARS

REBEL DEATH STAR PLANS



Image from Rogue One - A Star Wars Story © Lucasfilm Ltd

When the Rebel Alliance obtained the plans to the Empire's Death Star battle station they were forced to transfer these to a datacard in order to transfer them from the MC-75 cruiser *Profunidty* to the corvette *Tantive IV*.

These instructions show how to produce a replica of the datacard prop. This is a reasonably simple project that requires only basic tools and materials.

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Materials.

1 x piece of 2mm thick plastic card 75mm wide and 125mm long. Several small pieces of 1mm thick plasticard as shown in the templates included in this document. 1:1 scale printed copy of the detail label included in this document.

Constructing the Datacard.

First the main end plate is glued along one of the shorter edge of the 2mm thick piece.



Next the side plates are glued to the sides of the datacard beside the main end plate.



Finally the two upper tabs are glued onto the end plate so that they line up with the outer corners of the side plates.



Sanding the exposed upper face of the datacard now to remove any shine from the surface will help in gluing the detail label in place later.

Painting the End Plate.

Note: It is assumed that white plasticard is being used to make the prop. First the entire card aside from the end plate is masked off.



Now the exposed end can be painted black on all sides and the masking removed.



For other colours of plasticard:

If using black plasticard then mask off the end plate and paint the rest of the model white. This may take several coats and an intermediate grey layer may help.

For any other colour give the entire model a white undercoat and then paint the end plate black as if using white plasticard.

Gluing the Label in Place and Finishing the Prop.

The detail label is glued in place as shown here.



Next the exposed end of the 2mm thick plasticard can be cut away carefully to finish the prop.



What sort of glue to use for the detail label?

If the label is printed on a self adhesive material then fixing it in place is just a matter of applying this to the plasticard, otherwise the type of glue to be used should be carefully considered.

Several glue were experimented with during the making of this prop with the following results:

Superglue soaked into the paper label and created large discoloured patches.

PVA glue also soaked into the paper and warped the label to leave lumps.

A glue stick was found to be effective after the plasticard had been sanded.

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